

Climate Prediction Center's Hispaniola Hazards Outlook February 18 – 24, 2016

Increased rain observed over Hispaniola during the past week and expected to continue onto the next week.



During the past seven days, increased and widespread rain was observed over Hispaniola. Haiti received favorable rain, with moderate to locally heavy rain over the northern and southern departments of the country. The western two-thirds of the Dominican Republic also received widespread rain, with enhanced, moderate to locally heavy rainfall throughout the north and north-central areas. Light rain was observed elsewhere. This past week's enhanced rain has resulted in flooding, affecting many people in Cap Haitien of northern Haiti and municipalities of Puerto Plata of northern Dominican Republic. The observed above-average rain has also resulted in increased thirty-day rainfall surpluses across the northern portions of Hispaniola. The continuation of favorable rainfall distribution should help provide good soil moisture for the winter season crops over many local areas of the Island. Recent vegetation indices have indicated average to above-average conditions over most parts of Hispaniola. During the next week, rainfall forecasts call for continued widespread light to moderate rainfall over Hispaniola. While most parts of Haiti are expected to receive light to locally moderate rain, northern and central Dominican Republic may experience moderate rain. The forecast additional rain may exacerbate conditions on the ground over previously-flooded areas.